

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 NEA-10

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 EB-11 SCEM-02 /147 W

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2488

DOD WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

USAFE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5269Y

DOD FOR SECRETARY SCHLESINGER; STATE FOR EUR/WE FOR
AMBASSADOR GOULD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, NL, US, ENRG

SUBJ: US ASSISTANCE FOR NETHERLANDS AIR FORCE REFUELLING
REQUIREMENTS

1. MINISTER OF DEFENSE VREDELING TELEPHONED CHARGE MORNING
DECEMBER 3 TO EXPRESS HIS VERY WARM THANKS TO SECRETARY
SCHLESINGER FOR THE OFFER CONVEYED BY GENERAL JONES OF
US AIR FORCE FACILITIES IN THE FRG AND UK TO REFUEL ROYAL
NETHERLANDS AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT. THIS OFFER HAD BEEN
GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED, VREDELING SAID. HE THOUGHT IT BEST
NOT RPT NOT TO GIVE IT ANY PUBLICITY.

2. VREDELING CONTINUED THAT FRG MINISTER OF DEFENSE
LEVER HAD MADE A PARALLEOL OFFER FOR REFUELLING FROM ITS
OWN AIR BASES, WHICH THE GON WOULD ALSO MAKE USE OF.
VREDELING ADDED THAT AS REGARDS BUNKERING REQUIREMENTS
FOR NETHERLANDS NAVY SHIPS, HE DID NOT BELIEVE THERE WAS
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ANY NEED FOR US ASSISTANCE AT THIS TIME. HE UNDERSTOOD

THAT THERE WERE SOME TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES RE BUNKERING IN UK PORTS, WHERE THE CHARGES WERE ALSO MORE EXPENSIVE. VREDELING LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT THESE DID NOT CONSTITUTE A SERIOUS PROBLEM.

3. VREDELING HOPES THERE WOULD BE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR AT LEAST A BRIEF PRIVATE MEETING WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER DURING THE DPC MEETING ON DECEMBER 7, TO ENABLE HIM TO REITERATE HIS THANKS PERSONALLY TO THE SECRETARY.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY APPLAUDS THIS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF US DETERMINATION TO ASSIST ITS DUTCH ALLY WITH PRACTICAL ACTIONS WHERE HELP IS MOST NEEDED. WE ENDORSE VREDELING'S SUGGESTION FOR A BILATERAL MEETING WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER, WHICH WOULD BE USEFUL FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW IN DISCUSSING MUTUAL CONCERNS SUCH AS BURDEN SHARING. FURTHERMORE, WE WOULD JUDGE THAT A NEW MEETING WITH THE US SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WOULD ENHANCE VREDELING'S PRESTIGE WITHIN THE CABINET AND SIGNAL TO THE DUTCH PUBLIC THAT THE US INTENDS TO STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH GON REPRESENTATIVES IN COPING WITH COMMON PROBLEMS BROUGHT ON BY THE OIL BOYCOTT AND THE NEW SOVIET CHALLENGE TO NATO SOLIDARITY.
TANGUY

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